

**SECURITY FORCES PLATE CARRIER  
SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS**

1. **OBJECTIVE:** The objective of the Security Forces Plate Carrier (SFPC) is to decrease overall load weight while increasing mobility in various terrain conditions.
2. **OVERALL DESIGN (SHAPE):**
  - a. Designed in a manner to provide maximum coverage of the torso-vital area (from the collar area to the waist area while standing).
  - b. Lightweight with a close-fitting design.
  - c. Shall not interfere while transitioning from a prone, seated, or standing position.
  - d. Design shall ensure no interference with specialized movements/actions associated with ground combat.
3. **CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS:**
  - a. Constructed with a minimum of 500 denier Cordura nylon or like material.
  - b. All materials used in construction must be non-magnetic and noncorrosive.
  - c. Utilize a double-walled and multi-layer construction throughout all items to ensure durability.
  - d. All stitching shall conform to ASTM D 6193.
  - e. Stitching shall conform to 8-10 stitches per inch, without loose ends, runoffs, bunching or other defects.
  - f. Box stitching or triple back tacks are required at all high stress points to ensure durability.
  - g. Backstitching or over stitching is required to prevent raveling and provide reinforcement.
  - h. Thread ends shall be trimmed to 1/16 inch maximum.
  - i. Raw edges shall be turned under, heat sealed, and/or bound with binding tape to prevent unraveling.
  - j. Woven and dyed materials shall be free of pattern markings, needle holes, tears, or other defects that affect performance or durability.
  - k. Fabric requires water repellent finish.
4. **COLOR:**
  - a. Carrier and associated accessories shall be available in:
    - i. Air Force Digital Tiger Stripe (AFDTS) print,
    - ii. Operational Enduring Freedom Camouflage Pattern (OCP), and
    - iii. Tactical Black
  - b. All webbing, straps and the hook & loop identification panel shall conform to respective design color:
    - i. AFDTS = Foliage 504 or Air Force Sage Green 1641.
    - ii. OCP = Coyote Brown
    - iii. Tactical Black = Black

5. **BALLISTIC INSERTS:**

- a. Ballistic inserts must be compliant with NIJ Std 0101.06 ([www.nij.gov](http://www.nij.gov) – Compliant Armor: Body Armor that complies with NIJ Ballistic Resistance Standard, 0101.06).
- b. Rated for Type IIIA.
- c. Tested by the NIJ Compliance Testing Program and be listed on the NIJ Compliant Products List.
- d. Capable of being removed from carrier. Carrier can be worn with or without ballistic inserts.
- e. Ballistic insert service life must be a minimum of five (5) years. The start of the service life is defined as the date of manufacture.
- f. Areal density shall be no greater than 1.05 PSF.
- g. Thinness shall be no greater than 0.250”.

6. **PROTECTION AREA:**

- a. When properly fitted, the armor shall provide protection of wearer’s vital organs.
- b. Armor shall not extend below the navel area nor shall it rise over one inch (1”) above the navel area when standing in upright position.

7. **CARRIER SIZES:** Carrier shall be available in a full range of sizes, from X-Small to 2X-Large. The below chest measurements will be used when determining size:

Table 1: SFPC Carrier Sizes

CARRIER SIZE CHART						
Size	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL
Chest Measurement	29" - 33"	33" - 37"	37" - 41"	41" - 45"	45" - 49"	49" - 53"

8. **WEIGHT:** The maximum weights shall be:

Table 2: SFPC Weights

Size	Max Allowable Weight*
X-Small	5 lbs
Small	5.4 lbs
Medium	5.8 lbs
Large	6.2 lbs
X-Large	6.5 lbs
2X-Large	6.8 lbs

*Maximum allowable weights include carrier shell and ballistic inserts. Optional plates are not included.*

9. **PLATE SIZES:** Carrier must be compatible with Small Arms Protective Insert (SAPI), Enhanced Small Arms Protective Insert (ESAPI), and X-Threat Small Arms Protective Insert (XSAPI). Below are the plate measurements:

Table 3: SFPC Plate Sizes

Size	Dimension
X-Small	7.25 x 11.5 inches
Small	8.75 x 11.75 inches
Medium	9.5 x 12.5 inches
Large	10.25 x 13.25 inches
X-Large	11 x 14 inches
2X-Large	11 x 14 inches

10. **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:**

- a. Basic carrier design without optional removable left and right side pouches shall not include a cummerbund; rather, sides of basic carrier shall be secured utilizing a minimum of one (1) quick-release buckle per side.
- b. Side buckles shall utilize a minimum of 500 denier Cordura nylon or like material straps.
- c. Easily adjustable 2.5" wide (minimum) to 3.0" wide (maximum) padded shoulder straps. Shoulder padding shall be a minimum of 8 inches long, be removable, and one replacement set of shoulder pads shall be included with each plate carrier.
- d. Front and rear Modular Lightweight Load-Carrying Equipment (MOLLE) for attachment of optional tactical pouches.
- e. Reinforced heavy duty drag handle centered on the top portion of the backside of the plate carrier (certified/rated/tested up to 300 pounds).
- f. Contain both front and back, side or bottom loading plate pocket sleeves to accommodate armor plates ranging in sizes from X-Small through 2X-Large (See para. 9 for dimensions). Sleeves need to be accessible from outside of carrier shell.
- g. Include internal upper and lower suspension system for support of armor plates.
- h. Incorporate padding directly behind plate pockets to dampen the impact to the chest and back.
- i. Adjustable waist and shoulder system for girth and torso length for tailored fit.
- j. 12 inch wide by 4 inch high hook and loop fastener type identification panel sewn on front side of carrier to accept nametapes, rank and other patches. Identification panel shall be centered on the top of the front side of carrier.
- k. Machine and/or hand washable after removal of ballistic inserts.
- l. Carrier shall include removable right and left Enhanced Side Ballistic Insert (ESBI) pouches to accommodate ESBI plates. Exterior of pouches shall have MOLLE for attachment of optional tactical pouches. No soft ballistic inserts shall be in the pouches. Pouch(es) shall accommodate the following size plates:
  - I. 6" X 6"
  - II. 6" X 8"
  - III. 7" X 8"